

Greetings,

We passed our first anniversary at Hillcrest Community Center and are truly beginning to settle in. With that said, there are a few housekeeping matters to address. We need a permanent departure point for our motorcoach departures. While the Waters house at the top of Hillcrest seemed ideal with lots of parking, the facility still needs remodeling and not all the coaches are cleared to come up Hillcrest Dr. Last year, we used the Cosmo Park location and comments were favorable. For those reasons, we now will be using the Cosmo Park/Rainbow fields parking lot off Schwabe Ln as our permanent departure for our 50+ Tour trips by chartered motorcoach. There is plenty of parking and easy access for everyone. And the restrooms are open Apr 15-Oct 15.

We used White Knight's Temsa 30 passenger coaches most of 2014. There were a number of comfort complaints throughout the year. In order to address that issue and make the ride a more comfortable one with more leg room, we will now be requesting the larger Prevost and VanHool coaches. This will mean you will be seeing a slight increase in trip prices as "comfort does have a price".

At present, the green card promotion is suspended indefinitely. As costs have increased and participants numbers have decreased, it is impossible for the program to cover the cost of the green card travelers without making the trip price prohibitive. We would hope this program could be resurrected at some future point, so don't throw out your green cards. Keep them in a safe place where you can get to them.

There are still a couple of short, 3 and 4 day overnight trips for 2015 that still need tweaking so will be announced at a future date.

We will be working towards an email version of our newsletter. We may be contacting you to make sure you want to be included and verify the correct address. At present, you can see an electronic version online at [www.GoColumbiaMo.com](http://www.GoColumbiaMo.com), search Senior/50+.

Spring Surprise Trip \$85

Mon, April 13, 2015 Lv 8am/Rtn 8pm (Depart Cosmo Park /off Schwabe Ln)

Sit back, relax, and enjoy the ride! We've a long drive ahead of us chasing Spring. Dress comfortably for the day with some walking in mind. Weather cooperating, you'll be spending time in the sunshine! It will be a great day to remember and savor the season—Spring is here!

The price includes motorcoach transportation, lunch, sightseeing, all taxes and gratuities.



WWI Museum and Lidia's in Kansas City \$80

Wed, Jul 15, 2015 Lv 9am/Rtn 7pm (Depart Cosmo Park off Schwabe Ln)

Our day begins with a ride into Kansas City for lunch at Lidia's, the restaurant founded by renowned chef, Lidia Bastianich. She hosts a PBS cooking show, Lidia's Italy, where she showcases food, wine, recipes from Italy and cooked in America. This is only 1 of 7 restaurants she operates in New York City (5) and Pittsburgh. We will be greeted, seated and served family style. Our servers treat us as valued guests in their restaurant. After our meal, we will barely cross the street for an afternoon in The National World War I Museum and Liberty Memorial in Kansas City, MO, a memorial to those who served in World War I. Fundraising began in Oct 1919 and the Liberty Memorial was dedicated on Nov 11, 1926. A major renovation and expansion of the facility opened in 2006. In 2014 US legislation recognized this as the National World War I Museum and Memorial of the United States. The museum consists of permanent exhibits as well as changing exhibits. Keep in mind, to reach the top of the Liberty Tower you take an elevator and climb the last 45 steps. There is always something new to see and learn about this period in our world's history one hundred years ago.

The price includes motorcoach transportation, lunch at Lidia's, museum entrance, all taxes and gratuities.

Powell Gardens goes Loco-Lego \$525

XXX XX, 2015 Lv 8am/Rtn 6pm (Depart Cosmo Park off Schwabe Ln)

Powell Gardens is hosting a second Lego exhibition this summer. We always enjoy a visit to the Perennial Garden, the Water Garden, the Chapel and the Visitor Center and Barn. Tucked amongst the plants this summer, incredible animals and shapes made of Legos will enchant you as you stroll. Lunch will be on your own. You can enjoy a snack or full meal at your leisure in Cafe Thyme. We will also be stopping for dessert in Higginsville at the Red Shanty. There will be a considerable amount of walking if you intend to see all the Lego sculptures. (You will still enjoy the trip if you choose to stay close to the Visitor Center and restrict your walking). If you have grandchildren who tolerate sitting still for long rides and are Lego crazy this might be a perfect trip to share with them. There is no organized tour. You can walk and look at your leisure.

The price includes motorcoach transportation, Powell Garden entrance fee, all taxes and gratuities. Meals and snacks are on your own.

#### Major League Baseball

Columbia Parks and Recreation has requested major league tickets from both the St Louis Cardinals and Kansas City Royals for the 2015 baseball season. The cost of the trip is for transportation to the game. If you are interested in being notified when tickets arrive and we have game dates confirmed, please leave your telephone number at the Hillcrest Community Center Front Desk, 874-7475.

#### Crystal Bridges     \$

Tues, May 12-Thu, May 14, 2015   Lv 8am/Rtn 7pm

Treat yourself to a decadent 3 days and 2 nights in Bentonville, AR. Doesn't seem a likely place for that? Oh contraire! Our overnight accommodations are at 21c Museum Hotel, between the downtown Bentonville square and the trailhead of the Art Trail to Crystal Bridges Museum. Their bed linens are so special they are sold in the gift shop. You'll be able to dine in The Hive Restaurant and absorb art all around you exclusively by 21<sup>st</sup> century artists. Our last visit was in 2013 as the hotel opened. We are excited to return to see our green penguin friends who turn up all over the hotel and bring a smile to our faces. This truly is a top 10 rated deluxe boutique hotel!

The reason for the trip is a visit to the Crystal Bridges Museum. Alice Walton, daughter of Wal Mart founder, Sam Walton, spearheaded the development of the museum at this unique location. Architect, Moshe Safdie, fashioned the museum to fit into the landscape in a series of pavilions and creek-fed ponds. The museum opened on Nov 11, 2011 with its permanent collection of American art from the Colonial era to contemporary work. The special ticketed exhibit we will see is called, Van Gogh to Rathko, consisting of 76 artworks by 73 influential artists including Vincent van Gogh, Pablo Picasso, Georgia O'Keeffe, Salvador Dali, Frida Kahlo, Andy Warhol and Mark Rothko, tracing the story of avant-garde art from late nineteenth-century Modernism through Abstract Expressionism by Henri de Toulouse-Latrec, Vincent van Gogh, and Paul Gauguin, which inspired artists on both sides of the Atlantic, as can be seen in later works throughout the exhibition which considers ideas that contributed to the development of art movements such as Cubism, Surrealism, Pop Art, and Minimalism.

Another highlight of our trip will occur on the day of our arrival in Bentonville when we visit the Museum of Native American History. You will glimpse what life was like for America's first inhabitants as you "Walk Through America's Past". The museum is divided into five different time periods that will guide you through the constant changing lives of the Native Americans, as seen through their artifacts. The displays feature relics that date from over 14,000 years old to historic times. This is a "Must See" museum!

Tuesday, our travel day, will include our visit to the Museum of Native American History, dinner at Fred's Hickory Inn (said to be a favorite of Sam Walton), and settle us in the hotel for the next two nights.

Wednesday, the Crystal Bridges Museum hours are 11am-9pm. You can walk the ½ mile Art Trail or coach there. You can plan to spend the entire time there, eating at the cafeteria or Eleven Restaurant. The coach will travel between the hotel and museum several times during the day and evening so you can pace your time between museum and hotel/downtown Bentonville for relaxation, exploring, dining. We know everyone enjoys a museum such as this in a most personal way. The only confining point will be our timed entrance to the Van Gogh/Rathko Exhibit (time yet to be confirmed).

Thursday, leisurely morning. Hotel check-out is 11am/Museum opens at 11am. Our timed entrance to the Van Gogh/Rathko Exhibit is this morning. You will want to take a last visit to the Gift Shop and have lunch on your own before our 2pm departure with an expected return to Columbia before dark.

The price includes motorcoach transportation, 3 days/2 overnight accommodations at deluxe boutique 21c Museum Hotel, dinner at Fred's Hickory Inn, ticketed exhibit at Crystal Bridges Museum, all taxes and gratuities, trip and cancellation insurance.